

putrefaction and ptomaines, pyemia and septicemia, bacteriology proper and immunity. A bibliography of sixty-four pages, arranged by subjects and a valuable section of fifty-eight pages of *Biographical notices of some of the early workers in bacteriology* are appended to the text. The book is well printed, well illustrated and is highly recommended for all libraries. It is a "must" book for the reference collection.

MENINGIOMAS. THEIR CLASSIFICATION, REGIONAL BEHAVIOUR, LIFE HISTORY, AND SURGICAL END RESULTS. By Harvey Cushing, M.D. 785 p. Springfield, Illinois, Charles C. Thomas, 1938. \$15.

Although ordinarily textbooks are not reviewed in the *Bulletin*, this volume from the hand of a master surgeon and historian is worthy of notice. It contains matter of interest to medical librarians: a bibliography of a single type of brain tumor; case histories with the actual names of patients, some of them famous persons, such as Leonard Wood (pp. 408-414); "The Cases of Timothy Donovan and Dorothy Russell," names which will make their way into the history of medicine; historical notes, with illustrations, of particular importance; many illustrations from historical sources; an historical text which will become one of the classics of medicine. The beautiful typography is worthy of attention. Two copies, one for general use and one for the reference shelf, should be in every medical library.

THE BEGINNINGS OF SYSTEMATIC BIBLIOGRAPHY. By Theodore Besterman. Second edition; revised. 81 p. 4°. London, Oxford Univ. Press, 1936. 21 sh.

The author uses the term systematic bibliography in the sense of the enumeration and classification of books. The work is divided into four periods; the manuscript age (second-fourteenth centuries), the fifteenth century, the sixteenth century, and the seventeenth century.

Physicians stand out in the history of early bibliography. As early as the second century, Galen compiled a classified bibliography of his writings, "De libris propriis liber" and found it necessary to do a second one under the title "De ordine librorum suorum liber"; both of which were printed for the first time in the Aldine collective edition of Galen's works, Venice, 1525. Galen bibliographies were compiled by Hanain ibn Ishāq (809-873); and by Gentilis de Fulgineo. This last was printed in the 1483 Articele under the title "De divisione et ordine et numero librorum quo edidit Galenus"; the first printed medical bibliography.

Besterman has missed the auto-bibliography of Marsilius Ficinus, the Italian physician of the fifteenth century, printed in his "De sole et lumine," Florence, 1493. The first subject medical bibliography is the "De medicinae claris scriptoribus" of Symphorien Champier, Lyon, 1506. Jerome Cardan did his own bibliography and it will be found at the end of his "De Sapientia," 1544, under the title "De libris propriis."

Besterman devotes a chapter to Johann Trithem, the father of bibliography, whose works on the writings of the ecclesiastical fathers and on the writings of eminent Germans were both published in the late fifteenth century.